



## **SEEK Overview for Departments of Social Services and Local Purchasing Agencies**

**SEEK** (Subsidized Early Education for Kids) is an automated attendance reporting and payment delivery system that efficiently and accurately records the attendance (date and hours) of children participating in subsidized child care. This information is available in real time to the participating provider and to both county- and state-level staff.

Point of Service (POS) devices that track attendance in real time are placed in each child care facility that provides subsidized child care services. The state leases the machines but the provider must have a telephone land line or a cable internet connection for the device. A parent or responsible adult who has been determined eligible for subsidized child care services is mailed a magnetic stripe card that contains family specific information and is encrypted for security. The card is swiped each time a child is checked in or out of the child care facility.

To determine payments to the participating child care centers and homes, attendance information from the POS devices will be used. Payment will be based upon business rules for Subsidized Child Care as provided by the Division to Affiliated Computer Services, Inc. (ACS). Payments to providers will be made by the state twice a month by direct deposit to a checking or savings account designated by the provider.

Training will be provided and toll-free customer service lines are available for providers parents, and staff in local purchasing agencies.

It is anticipated that increased accuracy will lead to a reduction in potential fraud. In addition, payments to the providers will become more efficient and timely, thus reducing administration costs for the county.